

SECURITY INFORMATION

Approved For Release 1999/09/10 : CIA-RDP83-00423R000500260001-7

COUNTRY : India

SUBJECT : Aviation Developments: Grounding of Vicker's Vikings/  
Expansion of Air India International/ Air Force Order of Fairchild  
Packets

PLACE ACQUIRED

DATE ACQUIRED

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DATE OF INFO : late April 53

SOURCE

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1. Vicker's Vikings operating in India which have flown in excess of 8,000 hours have been grounded by the manufacturers, following investigation of an accident to a Viking in Tanganyika. It is understood that metal fatigue is suspected. Replacement of doubtful parts is expected to take three months. In the meantime DC-3's are replacing the grounded Vikings on Air India's routes.
2. The preparations of Air India International to extend services to Tokyo, Singapore and Australia are well advanced.
3. It is now confirmed that Air India International's order for three Super-Constellations (delivery 1955 ) has not been affected by its new order for two Comet Mark III's (delivery 1957).
4. The Indian Air Force has ordered 30 Fairchild Packets powered by Wright Compound Motors.

-end-

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